(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Setting up of a bench of a High Court is considered only if a complete proposal in terms of Section 51(2) of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 is received from the State government concerned, including the consent of the Chief Justice of the High Court and the Governor of the State and also if it satisfies the broad guidelines and criteria recommended by the Jaswant Singh Commission. Memoranda/Requests have been received from time to time from various sources for establishment of Benches of the Allahabad, Andhra Pradesh, Calcutta, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Orissa High Courts at various locations. However, no complete proposal has been received from any State Government except West Bengal. The Government of West Bengal had proposed to set up a Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri, which has been approved. Government of West Bengal is, however, yet to provide infrastructural facilities at Jalpaiguri to the satisfaction of the Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court. A proposal for establishing a Bench of Kerala High Court at Thiruvananthapuram has also been received but the views of the Governor of Kerala in terms of Section 51(2) of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 have not been received yet.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Changes in judicial system

†226. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the judicial system in the country is deteriorating day by day;

(b) whether it is also a fact that common people are losing faith in the judicial system;

(c) whether hearing of cases is not held on time;

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to take any steps to make the present judicial system effective;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Hearing of cases is done by the Courts depending on a number of factors such as status of the case, workload etc.

(d) to (f) Government is conscious of the need to speed up the justice delivery system to reduce the huge backlog of cases in courts and to ensure provision of quick and affordable justice to the people. Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored plan scheme for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

development of infrastructure facilities for judiciary. Another Central Scheme for computerization of District and Subordinate courts in the country is also being implemented. Government has continued the scheme of Fast Track Courts to reduce arrears at Sessions Courts level.

Use of Hindi in Supreme Court and High Courts

†227. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that judgements of the Supreme Court and High Courts would be written in Hindi instead of in English; and

(b) if so, by when it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) As per available information, no such information has come to the notice of the Government. Article 348(1) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides.

Under Article 348(2) the Governor of the State may with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in the proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in that State provided that decrees, judgements or orders passed by such High Courts shall be in English.

Under Section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963, the use of Hindi or official language of a State in addition to the English language may be authorized, with the consent of the President of India, by the Governor of the State for the purpose of judgments etc. made by the High Court for that State.

So far the Governors of four States namely, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have authorized the use of Hindi in addition to English language in the proceedings as well as the judgments, decrees etc. of the High Courts in their States.

Judicial impact assessment of Bills

228. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to implement the recommendation regarding mandatory judicial impact assessment of every Bill, to have a fair estimate of extra caseload, judges/staff, infrastructure and financial needs, that a new law is likely to generate; and

(b) if so, whether this would be done by the Ministry introducing the proposed legislation, or a "specialized expert cell" would be created, so that objective is ensured, by following well-laid norms?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.